

OLC #77-5405

11 DEC 1977

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

FROM: George L. Cary
Legislative Counsel

SUBJECT: Request from Senator Daniel K. Inouye
(D., Hawaii) re: Television Show
HAWAII FIVE-0

1. Action Requested: It is requested that you call Senator Daniel K. Inouye and explain to him why it would be inadvisable for you to comply with his request.

2. Background: On 8 December 1977 you received a letter from Senator Inouye, in his capacity as a United States Senator, not as Chairman of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, asking you to draft a short congratulatory note to Jack Lord and the staff of HAWAII FIVE-0 on the occasion of the tenth anniversary of this show.

3. Staff Position: Such a letter from you as Director of Central Intelligence could be misinterpreted in a number of ways and I believe it would be ill advised to so respond. As you know, HAWAII FIVE-0 is essentially a police show involving domestic operations. Because of the numerous allegations that have been raised and that will continue to be raised concerning CIA's past involvement in law enforcement activities as well as domestic operations, such a letter could give rise to additional criticism. In addition, such a letter could authenticate by implication the tradecraft employed by the actors in the show. Also, such a letter could be construed by many as a plug by a Government official of a private business. If you personally watch or have watched HAWAII FIVE-0, then you might consider writing such a letter as a private citizen. However, even that could be misconstrued by many.

4. Recommendation: It is recommended that you consider making a personal telephone call to Senator Inouye pointing out the problems involved and politely declining his request.

George L. Cary

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APPROVED: _____
Director of Central Intelligence

DISAPPROVED: _____
Director of Central Intelligence

DATE: _____

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